

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended hereinabove and as amended in the Amendment filed on May 21, 2007, which is entered by the RCE submitted herewith, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 23 have been further amended to clarify that the sealed container keeps an atmosphere on a periphery of the micro reactor at a pressure of not more than 1 Pa while the reformer is operated.

In addition, claims 1 and 23 have been further amended to recite an inlet pipe and an outlet pipe which are connected to the flow path of the micro reactor, and which extend outward from the container and are sealed to the container. See, for example, inflow pipe 24 and outflow pipe 25 in Fig. 5 and the description thereof in the specification.

As explained in the Amendment filed on May 21, 2007, which has not yet been considered by the Examiner, the structure recited in claims 1 and 23 provides significant advantages with respect to the conventional structure. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the cited references do not disclose, teach or suggest the features of the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1 and amended independent claim 23 as set forth hereinabove.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

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Entry of this Amendment and the Amendment filed on May 21, 2007, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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